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April 24, 2003 LB 540

other states, compared to the national average and so on. The Legislature, . . .

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...in an ill-fated attempt, tried to address it with LB 305. We were never able to get that done, but school systems themselves addressed the issue on their own and moved to increase teachers' salaries, and that was a cause for...because teachers' salaries are an important part of a school budget, that is one example of the kind of thing that led to that sort of spending increase, if that's helpful.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah. Thank you, Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: I...if...do I have time left?

SENATOR CUDABACK: You have about 30 seconds, Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay, thank you, Mr. President. I would just mention that we have tried, for those of you who are interested, to detail the impacts of LB 540 on individual school systems, both from the standpoint of the resources that would be available to them and the budget authority that would be available to them. We have created some printouts, which most of you, I think, have received. If you would like some guidance on interpreting those printouts, the...Russ and Connie from the department are in my office, will be there from 2:00 until 4:00 this afternoon. You're certainly welcome to make use of their expertise. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Senator Janssen, followed by Senator Beutler and others.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. Senator Raikes, could I ask you a few questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you respond?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.